RNA FOR A BETTER LIFE IN THE HEIGHTS

RIVERVIEW Neighborhood Association

December, 2000 – January, 2001

232 Ogden Avenue, Jersey City, N. J. 07307 – (201) 798-0493

RNA IS NOT AFFILIATED WITH ANY POLITICAL PARTY, ORGANIZATION OR ELECTED OFFICIAL

RNA HOLIDAY PARTY

On **Tuesday, December 12th**, RNA will hold its Annual Holiday Celebration for all its members, neighbors and friends. RNA cordially invites our friends from other neighborhood, block and civic associations throughout the City and Hoboken to celebrate the holiday season with us. We also extend this invitation to our Mayor and his staff, our Ward councilpersons and At-large representatives and all the City officials from the various agencies that have worked with and helped RNA during the year.

RNA will provide a variety of delicious hot food catered by **Mangia Bene**. In turn, we ask everyone to bring a favorite homemade holiday dessert treat or a non-alcoholic beverage.

The party will take place at the **Harbor View Health Care Facility** on the corner of Ogden Avenue and Franklin Street. The party will begin at **7:00 PM**. As usual, there will be no official business conducted at this meeting unless there is an emergency to discuss.

Members can bring a new friend or neighbor. Begin the holidays by toasting in the New Year with RNA.

Millennium Towers Fundraiser

On **Saturday, December 9th**, RNA and the **Coalition for a Better Waterfront** are sponsoring a fundraiser to pay the legal bills incurred in its fight against the Millennium Towers project. All generous individuals are invited to this event at the **Skyline** apartment building located at **551 Observer Highway in Hoboken**. The party will take place in the penthouse overlooking the site for the proposed 41-story twin tower mega-project on the Jersey City-Hoboken border.

Both associations along with the City of Hoboken have challenged in court, Jersey City's approval of this over-scale, ill-conceived project. Many neighborhood and civic groups in both cities have joined this battle against a project which will devastate traffic, historic views and create another walled community. To receive an invitation, call **217-0500** or respond via e-mail: **"www.betterwaterfront.com"**. We are now asking for your support. Please come and give generously.

[If you are unable to attend this event but would still like to contribute, send a check or money order payable to "Riverview Neighborhood Association" with the notation "MTP", to RNA, 232 Ogden Avenue, Jersey City, N.J. 07307. All donations are tax-deductible.]

PARK CELEBRATION

On **Sunday, December 17th**, RNA will sponsor a night of holiday activities starting in Riverview-Fisk Park. The festivities begin at **5:00 PM** with the lighting of the Park Pavilion with Christmas lights. Next we will sing holiday songs in the Park before **CAROLING** through our neighborhood. A group of hardy individuals has once again volunteered to sing their neighbors musical holiday greetings.

The pavilion is located on Ogden Avenue between Griffith and Bowers Streets. Dress warmly with proper clothing and footwear. Printed songs sheets will be handed out, so bring a flashlight. If you are unable to walk with us for this holiday activity, please welcome the carolers to your house by putting on your porch lights. And show your appreciation by inviting them in for some good cheer and some hot refreshments. Bring your family and friends. All are welcome to participate in this wonderful event!

This year several of our veteran carolers have organized a rehearsal night to practice our repertoire of songs. **Valerie Woodson** *has invited all potential carolers to her home at* **174 Ogden Avenue** *on* **Friday, December 15th** *at* **7:30 PM**. *We are hoping to improve our performance by being more familiar with the songs.* P.S. Volunteers interested in helping put up the Christmas lights, should call **Vito at 798-0493**.

HOLIDAY FOOD & TOY DRIVE

This is your last opportunity to contribute to RNA's Food and Toy Drive. Dry and canned food products will be accepted. New or used toys (in good working condition only) are also welcome. Please bring your gifts of food and toys to the December 12th meeting. You can also make a monetary donation.

The deadline for donations - either gifts or money - is **Friday, December 15th**. You can drop off your contributions during the week or receive more information by calling **Maria at 659-2245**.

All donations will be given to the less fortunate people living in our community during the holiday season. This year the membership voted to donate all proceeds to **Saint Lucy's Shelter** and **Hudson Cradle.**

MEETING MINUTES: November 14, 2000

Neighborhood Improvement District:

The meeting started at 7:35 PM. **NID Manager Ron Clemente** gave an update on several quality of life issues that had previously been reported to him. The **Incinerator Authority** confirmed that they would begin regular street sweeping of the newly opened Mountain Road. Work orders had also been issued to have receptacles and Caution signs installed along this road. And the gate at the bottom of the road has been closed and locked to prevent dumping and other illegal activities.

He also reported taking the following actions against specific properties: a work order to board up the rear **of 410 Palisade Avenue**; a summons for **233 Ogden Avenue** for improper garbage storage; a summons to **7 Hobson Street** for the perpetual "flea market" in front of their property; a work order to secure the abandoned property at **235 New York Avenue**, including fencing off the building and removing the front steps; and a work order to have the body shop at **33 Griffith Street** inspected by the Zoning officer and the Environmental Commission.

Members made the following new complaints: an unlicensed van was leaking oil and extending onto the sidewalk at **234-236 Ogden Avenue**; the installation of a porter-potty on the roof of **34 Griffith Street**; a receptacle should be installed at the bus stop located at the corner of Palisade Avenue and Griffith Street; and the newly installed security lights on **226-228 Ogden Avenue** were shining into the four houses across the street.

Mr. Clemente's working hours for the winter season are **9:00 AM to 4:30 PM**. His voice mail number is **547-4974, ext. 8015.**

Police:

Deputy Chief of Police Peter Behrens, commander of the North Precinct, reported that his "zero tolerance" campaign against quality of life crimes was producing results. Statistics for burglaries were down 68% and stolen cars were reduced by 30%. He also stated that there were 35 arrests for various narcotics crimes and 33 arrests for prostitution.

He was informed about several new problems in the community: panhandlers blocking traffic at Paterson Plank Road and Congress Street and harassing drivers at Central Avenue and Bowers Street and commercial construction being done on the weekends at 176-182 Sherman Avenue. Mr. Behrens discussed the notification limitations of Megan's law for sex offenders in our community. He stated that the police are keeping track of these individuals, but are unable to reveal their identities. He stated that the police investigate all complaints about suspicious activity.

Finally he asked for the names of needy families in our neighborhood because the North Precinct would be donating holiday gifts baskets. Also in attendance were **Lieut. Kiernan, Office Eddie Rakowski and NTF Officer Brown**.

Neighborhood Business:

The variance application for the proposed 7 unit building at **122-124 Ogden Avenue** was scheduled for November 16th and all members were urged to attend the meeting. Ron Clemente informed the meeting about the availability of leave bags for recycling leaves and organic material by the City. He also announced a program to help seniors with snow removal, which was being coordinated by the Department of Public Works (for more information, call 547-4400).

Beverly Brown Ruggia gave an update on the Park's tile project. Children have been painting tiles all summer and now she and **Sandy Martiny** are working on a design for the installation. Beverly promised to bring a sample of the finished tiles to the holiday party on December 12th.

The membership voted to donate all the proceeds from this year's food and toy drive to Saint Lucy's Shelter and Hudson Cradle. Dates were coordinated for this year's caroling and pavilion lighting events. A fundraiser to pay for the legal expenses of RNA's fight against Millennium Towers was announced for December 9th.

Holland Street Discussion:

There was a resumption of the discussion begun last month concerning the future of Holland Street, one of our community's original cobble stoned cliff roads. (On October 28th, the **Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy** announced their campaign to preserve the City's remaining cobble-stoned roads, including Holland Street.) Vito Brunetti related the recent history of these two cliff roads. In the eighties, Holland Street, along with Mountain Road, deteriorated when the City "abandoned" them because of a lack of cleaning, maintenance and police patrols. This in turn caused vandalism, dumping and criminal activity to proliferate on both roads. This culminated in a near-fatal assault of a resident in 1997 and a murder in 1998 on Mountain Road.

RNA, representing the community, demanded that the City renovate these roads and make them safe for both vehicular and pedestrian traffic. **Councilman Bill Gaughan** lobbied for state transportation funds to renovate both roads. Mountain Road was the first to be renovated and it has recently been reopened.

In January, 1999, RNA held two public meetings to discuss the City's plans to renovate Holland Street At the Jan. 27th meeting, RNA approved the reopening of the road to vehicular traffic as a one-way westbound street. RNA's Planning and Development Subcommittee met with the City's Engineering Division to review the renovation plans. (In Sept., 1999, **Freeholder Maurice Fitzgibbons** arranged for the County to renovate the Ogden Avenue bridge, which extends over Holland Street.)

Next **Kevin Sluka, Public Works Director** discussed the current status of Holland Street. The construction contract for the road's renovation was put out for public bid and the deadline for this process was December 17th. Because of the recent public outcry to preserve the road, Kevin indicated that the City could suspend the awarding of the contract in order to reconsider reopening Holland Street to vehicular traffic. He announced that he was organizing a public meeting in December or January to be held at Public School #8 on Franklin Street. The purpose of the meeting was to be a sounding board and get a consensus from the community on what to do with Holland Street: pave it over for vehicular traffic or preserve it as a cobble stoned road. He informed the group that if the community wanted to preserve it, the current state transportation funding could not be used for that purpose and alternative funding would have to be sought.

After a lengthy discussion, the membership approved a motion recommending that the City suspend the bidding process for the renovation of Holland Street and instead hold a public meeting to gather community input on this important issue.

The meeting was closed at 9:45 PM.

Maria Tuzzo, Secretary

Harbor View Holiday Party

The following articles were written by one of the Harbor View residents and reprinted from the Center's own newsletter and our own Jack Rea.

Once again this year, the Riverview Neighborhood Association came to Harbor View Health Care Facility to provide the residents with a very enjoyable pre-Christmas party.

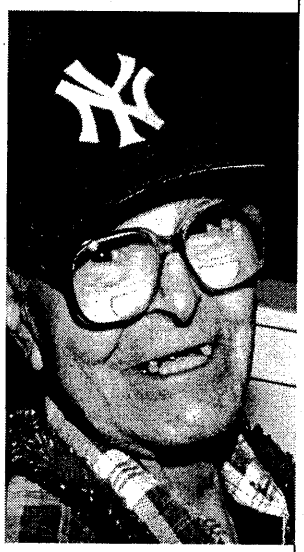
Santa came, with his sack over his shoulder, ready to put a smile on the faces of residents and staff alike. Each resident received a least two gifts. One of the Association's members also brought along his Angora rabbit. It was an extra special treat as we all had the opportunity to pet him.

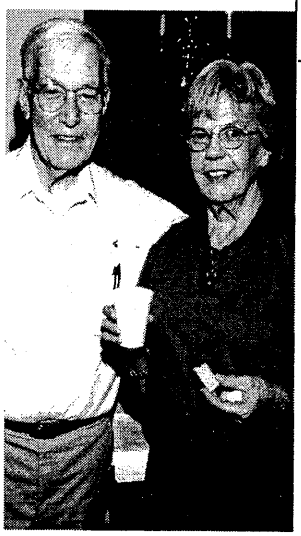
Cake and cookies were provided. There was music, singing and dancing - and even some karaoke from the residents, such as Theresa O'Connor, president of the Resident Council. We all were able to sing along with songs we love. It was a lively party and residents did not want it to end. A big thank you to the River View Neighborhood Association for bringing holiday cheer to Harbor View.

RNA's annual holiday party was a great success. The residents had a good time and a lot of them joined in with song and dance. Music was provided by Frank Frega and our two singing angels, Mary Botts and Susan Ganley. All the residents received small gifts presented by Santa and his clown helper. Santa was played by Robert Boesch and the clown by Valerie Rea. We also celebrated November birthdays with a special cake donated by Carol Goehrig.

The party would not have been possible without the help of Harbor View's Amy Wilson, her crew and the kitchen staff for coordinating and serving the residents. Many thanks to Catherine Keens and her good friend Artie, Gail Sasso, Claire Gaito, Dan from Palisade Lumber, Mrs. Ruth Conrad. I hope we did not forget to recognize anyone. Last but certainly not least, a special thanks to our photographer Dan D'Errico and his pet rabbit who was a big hit with the residents.

JACK REA





COMMUNITY UPDATES

Referendum Petition:

On November 20th, the developers of the proposed Millennium Towers project filed a petition in court to temporarily suspend the referendum process to repeal their 20-year tax abatement. The Committee of Petitioners along with the City Council and the City Clerk were named in the Order to Show Cause complaint, which is asking the court to decide whether an ordinance granting a tax abatement is subject to a citizen's referendum. The immediate effect of this action is to stop the City Council from repealing this abatement and the Clerk from organizing a special referendum election. The matter is scheduled for a final hearing on **December 15th** before **Superior Court Judge Mark Nelson** in Hudson County.

[On Monday, November 27th, **Superior Court Judge Jose L. Fuentes** in Hudson County convened the first Case Management Conference for the two lawsuits filed by RNA and the Coalition for a Better Waterfront and the City of Hoboken challenging Jersey City's zoning amendments for this project.]

122-124 Ogden Avenue:

The **Board of Adjustment** rescheduled the hearing for this residential project to **Thursday, January 11, 2001** because the developers' planner was not present. This is the second time this application has been adjourned. The developers, Tom Jones and Tom Pierro, are applying for seven variances from the zoning requirements, including density, lot coverage, lot width, lot area, floor area ratio and rear and side setbacks. This project will consist of a four-story structure housing seven apartments and an underground garage.

RNA in support of the local residents, has voted to oppose this project because of problems with the density and parking. It is recommending instead the construction of townhouses or two-family houses at this site. A representative from RNA will make a formal statement at the January 11th meeting. The City Planning Department has also recommended that the Board deny the variance for this project. RNA urges all its members and the local residents to attend this hearing in support the neighborhood.

New Park Land:

Council President Tom DeGise along with Councilmen Bill Gaughan and Arnold Bettinger are in the process of officially adding certain properties in our community to the City's inventory of dedicated parkland. Lot 54 in Block 768, commonly known as 285 Ogden Avenue, will become part of Riverview-Fisk Park. This parcel is currently being used unofficially as an extension of the Park's Community Garden. The community has recommended that this land become a permanent part of the garden to allow more residents an opportunity to cultivate their own vegetable and flower garden plots.

The other property, Lot 19E in Block 551, is contiguous with Sgt. Anthony Park and will become part of that Park. Earlier this year, the Councilmen removed both properties from the City's tax lien sale with the urging of the various neighborhood groups. The City must now pass legislation to place these city-owned parcels in the park inventory.

Holland Street Clean up:

On **Saturday, November 4th**, local community groups organized a clean up of Holland Street. The goal was to make City officials aware that the community would like to preserve this cobble-stoned road as a walking path annexed to Riverview-Fisk Park.

Members of **RNA, Heights Hope and Palisade Avenue Coalition** spent their Saturday cleaning up a historic section of the Heights. A Special thanks to a local boy scouts troop and the NID and Public Works workers who assisted in this project.

Another thanks to **Donna's Pizza** for providing the lunch. Finally, hats off to **John Gomez and Leon Yost** for their leadership in this campaign.

LETTERS to the EDITOR

LIBERTY STATE PARK

The following are excerpts from letters regarding the citizen's campaign to prevent the City of Jersey City and Liberty State Park's Development Corporation from approving a privatization plan to construct a commercial Water park facility in the Park. This plan, which anticipates over 4000 swimmers, would intrude on the Park's remaining interior natural area of green open space and potentially create traffic jams every weekend during the summer.

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has not scheduled a date for the Public Meeting to discuss this proposal and the Master Plan for the Park. In the meantime, ***the*** **Friends of Liberty State Park (FLSP)** *is urging all concerned citizens to: write a letter to your local newspaper, write* **to Assistant Commissioner Cari Wild** ***at the*** **NJDEP, P.O. box 404, Trenton, N.J. 08625.** ***or e-mail*** **Governor Christine Whitman** ***at:***

www.state.nj.us/governor/contact.htm.

FLSP is a nonprofit organization and all contributions are tax deductible. Membership contributions will support the group's work to improve, beautify and advocate for the public access to and enjoyment of Liberty State Park. For more information, contact the FLSP at: **P.O. Box 3407, Jersey City, N.J. 07302** *or visit the Internet site*: **www.hudson2000.com**.

Audrey Zapp, Commissioner, Liberty State Park:

Land purchased with state and federal taxpayer's funds and dedicated to the people of Hudson County as an open green space parkland where fences, admission gates and charges would shut out the public from enjoying the free people park. Serving as a Liberty State Park Commissioner for 25 years, I have witnessed many outrageous development proposals, however, this is the first time in the history of the Park that the public revenue process of such a massive commercial development has been so eroded. Where is the architectural design plan for this water park? Where is the business plan showing the projected admission costs, projected lease agreement of public parkland? Where is the alternative analysis plan which must be submitted by Jersey City to indicate city owned land, as a possible alternative site for the

Liberty State Park (continued from page)

water park? Where are the projections showing a duplication of the exact recreational facilities, re swimming, ice hockey, soccer and other sports planned for the Jersey City Sports Complex development in the shadow of Liberty State Park on Phillips Drive, (formerly the City's car pound)?

I, acting as a Commissioner, was personally involved in the 1974/78 Green Acre Bond Issue and the federal matching acquisition funds used to purchase this magnificent natural area Schundler is planning to destroy with his water park. It is interesting to note that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) purchased the land in order to save it from a massive housing project planned by another Jersey City Mayor, Paul Jordan. The legislature and the first NJDEP Commissioner Richard Sullivan defeated this development and provided the money to acquire the land. I assisted the State in organizing grass roots support for the Liberty Park this acquisition. The use of green acre bond money and national park funds mandated protection of the parkland forever. Schundler is attempting to challenge this protective, public policy with the development of an incompatible land use: a commercial water park on public land dedicated specifically for passive recreation, conservation and preservation. How many times must the people organize in protest in order to save dedicated parkland from the greedy self centered developers who want to make a "buck" by taking over the public's land?

Let's end this now; join Friends of Liberty State Park, the Liberty State Park Conservancy and the North Hudson Sierra Club in defeating this water park once and for all, and tell the State in no uncertain terms, no honky tonk water park for Liberty State Park.

Sam Pesin, President, Friends of Liberty State Park

Liberty State Park is our free urban waterfront park; it is sacred public land next to Miss Liberty and Ellis Island. The Park's public access and great potential is in danger of being destroyed by a summer weekend traffic jam, produced by a commercial Water park plan being pushed by Mayor Schundler and the Park's Development Corporation.

Last winter, the NJDEP set in motion an Interior Plan Committee and public hearing and comment process to create a wise plan for the Park's Interior Perimeter. At the November 6th committee meeting, a tentative public hearing date was set for late January and it should be finalized soon.

I must correct the Mayor's total misrepresentation of the acreage, which the Committee and public will primarily be focusing on. The approximately 185 acres, which comprises the main part of the Interior, where a forest and wetlands are emerging, is already set to be a natural area. The amount of land, which the three alternative plans involve, is only the Interior's approximately 45 acre perimeter buffer. Therefore, the 20 acres, which the Mayor wants (13 for the Water park and seven acres mostly for assorted privatized ventures) amounts to about one-half (of the 45 acres to be planned) - not the 10% as he claimed. Also the Water park lease payments from the private developer might not even pay the salaries of the extra park staff, which the NJDEP has said would be needed.

In April 1995, Governor Whitman, after years of public comment, rejected the Development Corporation's golf course plan and stated "The 240 acre center portion (now minus the new 10 acre Millennium Park section) of the Park will be left as a natural area and will not be developed in any way." She also declared that this unique natural oasis will have trails, boardwalks and educational programs. Mayor Schundler probably wants to forget the Governor's decision because his representative on the Development Corporation's rubber-stamp "Working Committee" voted for the golf course in the Park.

We urge the public to speak out for a free open space perimeter for unstructured recreation and to oppose the commercial Water park.

Steve Lanset, Chair, Hudson Grp , N. J. Sierra Club

I have so many questions about Mayor Schundler's proposed commercial "aquatic center" in Liberty State Park. Why has a single developer, Water Technology Inc., already been "wired" into this deal? Are contributions to Schundler's political campaign and/or his Empower the People issue group involved? We may never know because he refuses to reveal the contributors to Empower the People. Also, why has no meaningful business plan with revenue and profit projections for the "aquatic center" been released by NJDEP in anticipation of upcoming public hearings? Why no detailed architectural drawings? Why the shameful manipulation of school children with a contrived poll about the desired activities in the Park? Is this an attempt to find another income for the parasitic Liberty State Park Development Corporation? And. why is the mayor promoting the improper conversion of land purchased with Green Acres money and federal Wildlife and Conservation funds?

In 1994, during the last Battle of Liberty State Park, debate raged over a proposed private 18-hole golf course to be financed by a state bond issue. Audrey Zapp and I wrote a report showing that the golf course would lose money. NJ taxpayers would have to subsidize a project to benefit the few who can afford green tees on a regular basis. Together with others, we convinced Governor Whitman to reject the golf course. She said that the Park's interior should be reserved for passive uses with a view to preservation of its rich and varied plant and animal life.

Given the Governor's commitment, it is heard to understand why Whitman's DEP is contemplating a commercial "aquatic center" there. No doubt, waterfront developers are licking their chops over the prospect of developing this prime real estate through creeping annexation. Developers' money, truly the mother's milk of politics in New Jersey, has been flowing into assorted Republican and Democratic political campaign coffers. Meanwhile, with the aid of her compliant commissar, Commissioner Robert Shinn, the Governor has financially starved the DEP and decimated its staff. We even have trouble getting the DEP to enforce the law!

It is time for other elected public officials to demand an end to this new raid on the taxpayers, which features the taking of public land for private purposes with due process. If we are to have meaningful public hearings, they must also demand that the DEP release complete information in timely fashion, about the proposed "aquatic center", so that the public can knowledgeably review the project for its potential economic, social and environmental impacts. And if we are to get to the root of the creeping private annexation of Liberty State Park, we need to review the role of costly and publicly unaccountable Liberty State Park Development Corporation.

BULLETIN BOARD

Notice:

This is the combined December, 2000 - January, 2001 issue of the RNA monthly newsletter. The next issue will be published in February, 2001. RNA will hold a regular monthly meeting on January 9th with Sam Pesin of the Friends of Liberty State Park as its guest speaker.

RNA's COOKBOOK:

CANDY CANE TWIST

INGREDIENTS:

1 package active dry yeast
1/3-cup sugar
2/3-cup water (105 to 115 degrees)
1 cup toasted skinned hazelnuts
3 cups bread flour or all-purpose flour
1-teaspoon salt
1/4 cup (1/2 stick) unsalted butter, at room temperature
1 egg
1/2 cup dried cherries or golden raisins

1) Dissolve yeast and 1 teaspoon of sugar in lukewarm water. Let stand until foamy, 5 to 10 minutes.
2) Toast hazelnuts by spreading nuts out on baking sheet. Bake in preheated 350-degree oven for 8 to 10 minutes or until toasted. Rub nuts in a clean kitchen towel to remove the skins. Place half of hazelnuts in food processor. Whirl until chopped; remove and reserve. Place remaining nuts in the food processor along with the remaining sugar. Whirl until finely ground. Add the flour, salt and butter to processor. With the machine running, add the egg and the yeast mixture. Whirl until mixture forms a ball; whirl 30 seconds more to knead.
3) Transfer dough to a large greased bowl; turn to coat. Cover with a damp cloth. Let rise in a warm place, away from drafts, until doubled in bulk, about 1 1/2 hours.
4) Punch down rough. On a lightly floured surface, knead in remaining nuts and the cherries or raisins.
5) Divide the dough in half. Roll each half into a 24-inch long rope. Twist the ropes together. On a greased baking sheet, form the braided loaf into a candy-cane shape. Cover with a damp cloth. Let rise in a warm place, away from drafts, until doubled in bulk, about 1 hour.
6) Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Bake coffeecake for 25 to 30 minutes or until golden brown and hollow sounding when tapped. Cool bread on a wire rack.
7) Prepare icing. Sir together 1 1/2 cups 10X (confectioners) sugar and about 2 to 3 tablespoons milk until blended and good icing consistency. Divide icing in half. Tint half with red food coloring. Drizzle or pipe red and white icings in candy-cane stripes over bread.

POLICEBEAT

Residents should contact their Neighborhood Task Force (NTF) Police Officers if they have a problem, a safety concern or knowledge of criminal activity through the North District's Community Service voice mail at **547-5719** or the front desk at **547-5350**. When leaving a message, include your name, telephone number, street address, the nature of the problem and the date and time of the message. For emergencies, call **547-5477** or **911**.

Anyone with information about illegal drug use and/or drug dealing, should contact the JCPD Narcotics Unit at **547-5391** or beeper at **502-9131**. All calls will be strictly confidential.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Neighborhood Improvement District: Call **547-4974** and then dial extension 8015 for NID Manager Ron Clemente to complain about quality of life problems or concerns on your block.

PSEG Lighting: To report a non-functioning light in the Park or on any of our streets, call PSEG at **1-800-436-PSEG (7734)** and give the operator the exact location and number of the street pole.

Parking Authority: To report parking complaints call **653-6969**, and **press #9**. This number is good till 12 midnight. If there is an emergency, Mr. Carmine Venezia, the PA Director can be reached through his beeper **517-3367**, till midnight during the weekdays and till 5 pm on Saturdays.

JOIN RNA

The annual membership dues of **$7.00** enables a local resident to vote on important issues in our community and receive our monthly newsletter. ***Our boundaries are Ogden and Palisade Avenues from Congress Street to Cuneo Place.***

Watch for Special Events on Community Bulletin Board

The new Community Bulletin Board is located in the children's playground on the corner of Palisade Avenue and Bower Street - across from the bus stop. It will feature special community announcements of the neighboring associations. RNA will publish a special one-page edition of its monthly newsletter (with enlarged print) which will be posted at the Board. Watch for dates for our upcoming activities.

HEIGHTS PRIDE BOOKLET

The 2000 edition of the Heights Pride Booklet, complied by Councilman Bill Gaughan, is a very helpful resource guide to municipal services. Copies can be obtained by calling Tom Dolan, the Councilman's aide at **547-4576** or picking it up at his Heights office at the Municipal Building at 325 Palisade Avenue.

CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR NEWSLETTER

Tell us what you think about what you just read in this newsletter. Are you satisfied with the quality of life on your block? Send articles, comments or recipes to 232 Ogden Ave. *The next deadline:* **Friday, January 26, 2001**.

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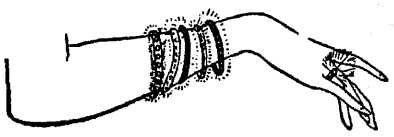

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RIVERVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
232 OGDEN AVENUE
JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY 07307

FOR A BETTER LIFE IN THE HEIGHTS

RIVERVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

WISHES ALL OUR NEIGHBORS, MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:

Merry Christmas,
Felice Navidad,
Happy Chanukah,
Joyous Kwanza
AND a happy & healthy New Year!

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY AT OUR NEXT MEETING ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12th at 7:00 PM

NON PROFIT
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JERSEY CITY, N.J.
07302
PERMIT # 153
CAR.-RT. PRESORT

RIVERVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

RNA

Vito Brunetti
Chairperson

Steven Carr
Vice-Chairperson

Maria Tuzzo
Secretary

Tim Gilliard
Treasurer

Beth D'Errico
Sgt. At Arms

COMING EVENTS

12/9: **Fundraiser** for RNA and Coalition for Better Waterfront (see front page)

12/12: **Monthly RNA Meeting**: Starts at 7:00 PM
Harbor View Health Care Facility: Ogden and Franklin
Annual Holiday Party for our members, neighbors and friends.
Hot food & refreshments will be served. Bring a new friend or neighbor.

12/15: **Rehearsal** for Xmas Caroling (see front page)

1217: Christmas Caroling and Pavilion Lighting Ceremony (see front page)

1/9/2001: Monthly RNA Meeting: Starts at 7:00 PM
Harbor View Health Care Facility: Ogden and Franklin
Agenda: Police
NID
Guest Speaker: **Sam Pesin, Friends of Liberty State Park:**
Discussion on water park proposal for Park (see page 4)

1/11/2001: Board of Adjustment hearing for **122-124 Ogden Avenue**
City Hall, 280 Grove Street; Starts at 6:00 PM (See page 4)

Harbor View Holiday Party

The following articles were written by one of the Harbor View residents and reprinted from the Center's own newsletter and our own Jack Rea.

Once again this year, the Riverview Neighborhood Association came to Harbor View Health Care Facility to provide the residents with a very enjoyable pre-Christmas party.

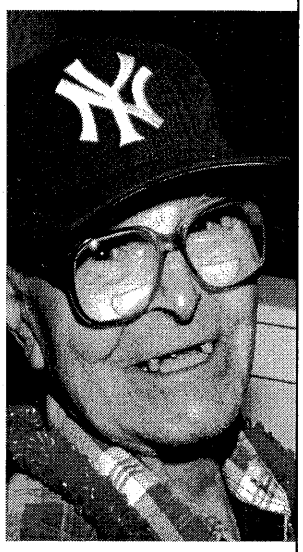
Santa came, with his sack over his shoulder, ready to put a smile on the faces of residents and staff alike. Each resident received a least two gifts. One of the Association's members also brought along his Angora rabbit. It was an extra special treat as we all had the opportunity to pet him.

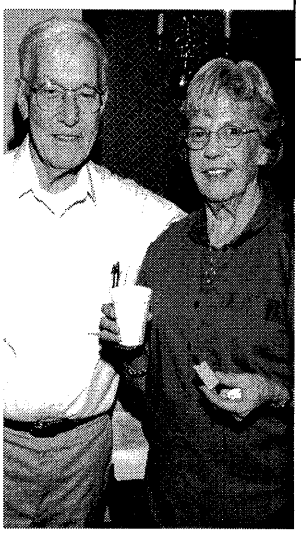
Cake and cookies were provided. There was music, singing and dancing - and even some karaoke from the residents, such as Theresa O'Connor, president of the Resident Council. We all were able to sing along with songs we love. It was a lively party and residents did not want it to end. A big thank you to the River View Neighborhood Association for bringing holiday cheer to Harbor View.

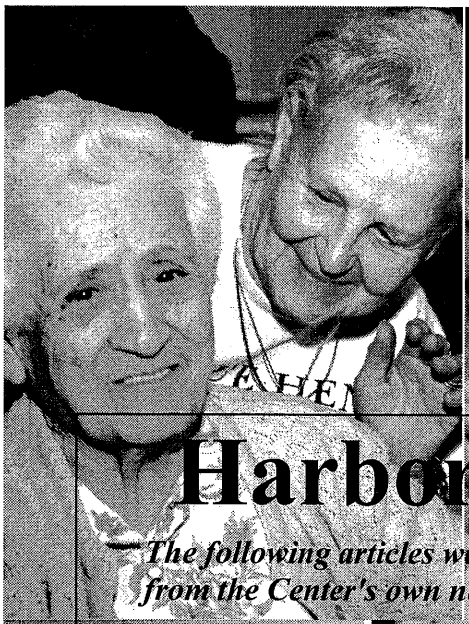
RNA's annual holiday party was a great success. The residents had a good time and a lot of them joined in with song and dance. Music was provided by Frank Frega and our two singing angels, Mary Botts and Susan Ganley. All the residents received small gifts presented by Santa and his clown helper. Santa was played by Robert Boesch and the clown by Valerie Rea. We also celebrated November birthdays with a special cake donated by Carol Goehrig.

The party would not have been possible without the help of Harbor View's Amy Wilson, her crew and the kitchen staff for coordinating and serving the residents. Many thanks to Catherine Keens and her good friend Artie, Gail Sasso, Claire Gaito, Dan from Palisade Lumber, Mrs. Ruth Conrad. I hope we did not forget to recognize anyone. Last but certainly not least, a special thanks to our photographer Dan D'Errico and his pet rabbit who was a big hit with the residents.

JACK REA







Harbor View Holiday Parties

The following articles were written by one of the Harbor View residents and appeared in the Center's own newsletter and our own Jack Rea.

Once again this year, the Riverside Neighborhood Association came to Harbor View Rehabilitation Facility to provide the residents with a very enjoyable pre-Christmas party.

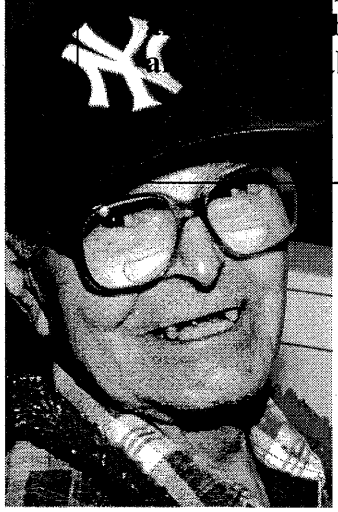
Santa came, with his sack over his shoulder, ready to put a smile on the faces of residents and staff alike. Each resident received at least two gifts. One of the Association's members also brought along his Angora rabbit. It was a great treat as we all had the opportunity to pet him.

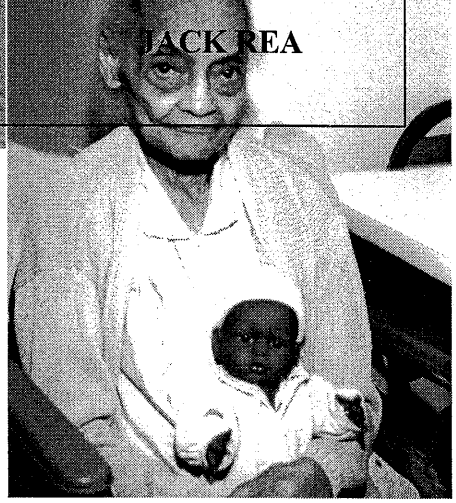
Cake and cookies were provided. There was music, singing and dancing and even some karaoke from the residents, such as Theresa O'Connor, President of the Resident Council. We all were able to sing along with songs we love. It was a lovely party and residents did not want it to end. A big thank you to the Riverside Neighborhood Association for bringing holiday cheer to Harbor View.

RNA's annual holiday party was a great success. The residents had a good time and a lot of them joined in with some good singing. Refreshments provided by Frank Fraga and our two singing waitresses, Jeanne and Dorothy. All the residents received small gifts. Santa was played by Robert Boessh and the show was run by Valerie Rea. We also celebrated November birthdays with a special cake donated by Catherine Keering.

The party would not have been possible without the help of Harbor View Activity Director Amy Wilson and her crew and the kitchen staff for cooking and serving the food. A special thanks to Catherine Keering and her good friend Artie, Carl's Riverside Lumber, Mrs. Ruth Conrad. I hope we did not forget to recognize anyone but certainly not least, a special thanks to our photographer Dan D'Errico and Jack who was a big hit with the residents.

JACK REA





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